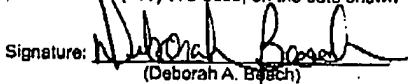


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (703) 872-9308, on the date shown below.

Dated: 1/30/04 Signature: 
(Deborah A. Beech)

Docket No.: 21776-00039-US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Fumitaka Sugaya

Conf. No.

Application No.: 09/387,857

Group Art Unit: 2822

Filed: September 1, 1999

Examiner: C. L. Novacek

For: **A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND A
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE
SAME**

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 10, 2003 (Paper No. 20), finally rejecting claims 32-36, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page of this paper.